

Appl. No. 10/825,679  
Reply Filed: April 17, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of October 17, 2006

### REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of 17 October 2006, Applicants submit this Reply. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19 and 43 remain in this application, of which claims 1 and 16 are independent. No fee is believed due for claims for this Reply.

#### Rejections Under 35 USC §101

The rejection of claims 1-3, 6-15 and 39-41 is obviated by the amendment of claim 1 above to include the subject matter of claim 4, and the cancellation of claims 12 and 39-41. Thus, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground for rejection.

#### Rejection of Claims 1-42 Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-42, of which remaining claims 1 and 16 are independent, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of U.S. PG Pub. No. 2003/0046369 (hereafter "Sim"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention "generally relates to data processing systems and, more particularly, to systems and methods for providing a proxy for a shared file system." (Specification, par. [0001]).

Sim describes a method and apparatus for initializing a new node in a network. Applicants respectfully submit that, as clarified by the amendments to independent claims 1 and 16 above, neither the *shared storage* nor the *information for accessing the counterpart data files from the shared storage* are disclosed by Sim. A proxy file system that may be part of a controller is not equivalent to shared storage with a controller.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19 in view of Sim is respectfully traversed.

### CONCLUSION

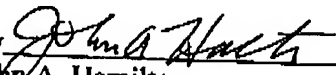
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this reply, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, please charge any fee to **Deposit Account No. 50-0876**.

Respectfully submitted,

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